



# State of New Mexico

*Office of the Governor*

**Bill Richardson**  
*Governor*

**News advisory**  
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## **Governor Bill Richardson urges passage of DWI Bill**

*Santa Fe-* Governor Richardson issued the following statement today at the "DWI Bewareness Day" press conference:

“Two days ago, in my State of the State, I asked the Legislature to immediately pass the technical changes to the bill we passed last year and send it to my desk as soon as possible.

House Bill 94 sponsored by Representative Swisstack and Senator Cravens will introduce the Senate Bill today. This bill needs to be on my desk.

The first executive message I sent to the Legislature, has a sign of my priorities was a message to pass this important legislation.

DWI is my top priority for this session. We can't wait for a 60-day session to deal with this complex issue. We have to act now.

- My package dramatically increases penalties for killing or injuring someone while driving drunk
- It toughens the penalties for multiple DWI offenders who kill or injure.
- Multiple DWI offenders, and those who drive drunk on a suspended or revoked license, will also forfeit their vehicles. We'll take the weapon out of their hands.

- We're creating a DWI child endangerment law with tougher penalties for those who drive drunk and injure our children.

We must make the guilty pay, get the chronic DWI criminals off our streets and protect our children by punishing anyone who gives them alcohol.

I will continue to push, as my top legislative priority, the comprehensive DWI legislation.

So I say to all those who drink and drive-in New Mexico you will be punished.

This session we will, one and for all, strengthen our laws and protect our citizens.”